

House Resolution No. 3143

Whereas, Robert L. Behnken is a native son of Missouri, having been born and raised in St. Louis County, and currently works for NASA as an astronaut; and

Whereas, Robert Behnken has distinguished himself, his family, and the great state of Missouri through his recent mission to the International Space Station aboard the space shuttle Endeavor, his first mission into space; and

Whereas, Robert Behnken participated in two space walks during his mission and helped to install new components essential to the continued operation of the International Space Station orbiting the Earth; and

Whereas, Robert Behnken's notable career started with his education at home and in the Pattonville School District, from which he graduated in 1988; and

Whereas, Robert Behnken furthered his education by earning dual Bachelor's degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Physics from Washington University, his Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the California Institute of Technology, and his Doctorate in Mechanical Engineering from the California Institute of Technology; and

Whereas, Robert Behnken serves his country as a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force where he has logged more than 780 flight hours in 25 different types of aircraft; and

Whereas, a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Test Pilot Program in 1999, Robert Behnken is the proud recipient of several awards and honors including the USAF Achievement Medal and the USAF Commendation Medal; and

Whereas, Robert Behnken's father, Louis Behnken, still lives in the home where he was raised, while his sister also resides in St. Louis County, both of whom are exceedingly proud of his achievements; and

Whereas, Robert Behnken plans to wed fellow astronaut K. Megan McArthur, who will blast into space aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis in 2008, later this year:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join in extending our most hearty congratulations to Robert Behnken at this proud moment of well-deserved distinction; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Robert L. Behnken.

Offered by _____
Representative Michael G. Corcoran
District No. 77

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session,
do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 3143, adopted May 16, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker